



# Cornwall Blood Bikes

Registered Charity Number: 1140165

**Riding for Life**



## February 2015 Newsletter (ramblings from the saddle).

Hiya!

Welcome to **CORNWALL BLOOD BIKES**

Its official we are now rebranded as Cornwall Blood Bikes, thanks to everyone who was involved in the very complex procedure of contacting the Charity Commission, banks, Facebook, traffic wardens, hospitals, hospices and lots of other organisations needed to be told.

I have some sad news to impart; Paul Thomas has resigned from the position of Vice Chairman. So in a purely mercenary way who wants his job? Come on I know someone out there wants a VC it could be the only one you get without being shot at. As the next AGM is on the 16<sup>th</sup> February at 1930 which is a Monday at the Polkyth Leisure Centre St Austell PL25 4EG. Get your nominations in now. Chris has sent out an email in the absence of Phillipa and David as they are on holiday so check your junk mail and spam folders... Olly Rutter that's for you.

Ok so January was a busy month with 240 jobs completed with 7149 miles travelled, now that is going some in anyone's book. Lets have a group hug!

There is no doubt that we are giving a good service to the NHS and I think it is becoming obvious to the NHS as a whole that we can help them in many ways. For that reason we need people to continue to put their names down on the rota as the jobs keep piling up every month. So now the days are getting longer we should see more Cornwall Blood Bikes Hi-Viz jackets around the roads of Cornwall.

It would seem I have nothing to rant about this month, which is weird but I'll have a go anyway. Have you noticed how random the weather has become in the last few weeks and have you noticed how weathermen can hardly speak in a normal voice anymore due the splinters that have clearly penetrated their asses, which is what happens when you sit on the fence all the time. Imagine my surprise when David Brain on Spotlight announces just before giving one of his cheery waves at the end of the show (Craig Rich was much better at least you felt you could believe him), that there would be a small chance of rain, during the night it snowed!! Called out at 2130 to go to West Cornwall Hospital to collect blood samples why was the A30 from Chiverton to Scorrier covered in this white stuff and the temperature had dropped lower than a snakes testicles... to make matters worse it was the same two days later on another trip to the far west. Why cant they just have a look at the Met Office website <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather> to get the correct report?

Right what's happening this month? Well Steve Wells' wife is even as we speak preparing for the 5<sup>th</sup> Bodmin Fire brigade half marathon on 22<sup>nd</sup> February starting at the Dragon Leisure Centre in Bodmin. We need four guys on their bikes to help with marshaling on the day. A marked bike will be in attendance with a money pot attached but the rest of the guys will be placed at crossing points on the route, as it is mostly a cross-country course. All those wishing to help out please email me for details. We all have to support people who are helping with our charity so come on folks lets get behind Heather and help get her around what will be a difficult enough course without any support. We can also help by getting some sponsorship money for her. To that end let's see if we can raise a good amount. Steve sent out a sponsor form last month so if you need a copy contact him or me for a new one.

I would also like to pass on my thanks to Darren Berry for opening his new café 'Chapter 1' at the Damerrells site for Ian Butler 'Quatermass' to sit in while waiting for chaps to arrive to swap over their kit or be issued with new stuff two weeks ago.

Here is a date for your diary, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2015 'Raise the Ruth' which is a Redruth based community choir have booked the Grapevine Community Church, Broad Lane Chapel, Illogan TR15 3HY for a night of music and entertainment. The choir sing a huge selection of songs, Marc Almond to Adele and everything in between. They have also organized other 'acts' to perform on the night. As a gesture the choir have volunteered to pay for the drinks license so we don't have to pay. All we have to do is provide raffle prizes (booze, chocolates, perfume etc.). We also need someone to see if they can get hold of (donation preferably) some wine (both colours) tea, coffee and biscuits. Oh yes, and someone to help sell them. Tickets will be £5 each. Please lets get behind this community organisation that are willing to give up their time for our charity. Let me know how you will be able to help.

Short and sweet this month for no other reason than it was dry January and everyone needs a bit of spiritual guidance....

One last thing I did say if anyone had any problems they could email them to me and I would try to help with an advice problem page on the newsletter. I'm waiting and with all my worldly experience I'm sure I will be able to help you...

Psst! Almost forgot, the new website is on its way so keep a look out.

If you have any bits you would like me to include in future ramblings please email me at [fundraising@cornwallbloodbikes.org](mailto:fundraising@cornwallbloodbikes.org) and I will see what I can do.

Hmm that's probably enough for today so I will leave it there. Don't forget to put your availability down on the rota and if you want a marked bike check out the booking form on Dropbox. **My last plea concerns Dropbox, remember to take the form you want to read or amend out of the box and put it on to your desktop. That way we don't get duplicate forms, which leads to confusion.**

Ride safe  
Mark